Assistance to micro-enterprises under SJSRY in Andhra Pradesh

1859. SHRIMATI N.P. DURGA: Will the Minister of HOUSING AND URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact the number of urban poor assisted to set up micro enterprieses under Swarna Jayanti Shahari Rozgar Yojana in Andhra Pradesh has come during the last three years, *i.e.*, from 2003-04;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the number of urban poor imparted skill training under the above Yojana has also come down during the same period;

(c) if so, the reasons for (a) (b) above;

(d) whether Government would consider increasing the maximum project cost from the present amount of Rs. 50,000 to Rs. 1,00,000 and margin money or subsidy from 15 per cent or a maximum of Rs. 7,500 to 20 per cent or a maximum of Rs. 20,000; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOUSING AND URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION (KUMARI SELJA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) During 2003-2004, as against the Central share of Rs. 13.90 Crore, the State Government released Rs. 46.45 Crore, under Swarna Jayanti Shahari Rozgar Yojana (SJSRY). In subsequent years, State share has been considerably less, thus reducing the physical coverage of beneficiaries.

(d) and (e) The Government has initiated an evaluation study on the Swarna Jayanti Shahari Rozgar Yojana (SJSRY), covering various issues such as project cost, project coverage, project implementation mechanism etc. The increase in the project cost as well as subsidy for the projects will depend upon the outcome of the study.

Summit of investors in Gujarat

1860. SHRIMATI JAYA BACHCHAN: Will the Minister of OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a vibrant summit took place in Gujarat in January, 2007 where investors across the globe took part; and

(b) if so, the outcome of the summit including the issues discussed and the projects cleared for investment and the MoUs, if any signed there?

THE MINISTER OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS (SHRI VAYALAR RAVI): (a) Yes Sir, The State Government organized the vibrant Gujarat global investors meet at Ahmedabad on January 12-13,2007.

(b) As reported by the State government, during the summit, seminars were held in 9 sectors-Oil and Gas, Chemicals and Petrochemicals, Special Economic Zone and port-led Development, agro and food processing, engineering, auto and ceramics, bio-technology, textiles and apparels, gems and jewellery and pharmaceuticals, 343 Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) were signed and 20 announcements were made for investments in the state of Gujarat a total investment of Rs. 4,61,835/- crore.

Contribution of Indian diaspora

1861. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA: Will the Minister of OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether of late, Indian diaspora has displayed its capabilities in science and technology, medicine, life science, information technology and a host of other disciplines;

(b) in what manner Government are thinking of taking advantage of their acumen and experience to help develop a social eco-system that is both sustainable and inclusive India being enjoying a high visibility;

(c) whether suitable modalities would be evolved so that these 2 per cent PRAVASIS who need to partner with India's 20 per cent middle-class and growing, to help raise the quality of life of the remaining population, are motivated; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS (SHRI VAYALAR RAVI): (a) to (d) Government has embarked on a new intiative for "Collaborative Projects with Scientists & Technologists of Indian Origin Abroad (CP-STIO)" in March 2006 for project based connectivity between home country scientists and STIOs abroad with a view to gaining from